



2. “Scholarly communication among the Library professionals in India with reference to Indian Librarians online study circle”

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Abstract

This paper is focus on the communication among the Library professionals in India. The scholarly communication has been discussed on various aspects of Library and Information science on Indian Librarians online study circle. How library professionals has perceived information and involved in academic and professional discussion has been discussed with discussion data of ILOSC. It also reflects the abilities, strengths of the professions and needs for the future development of Library and information science in this era.

Keyword: Scholarly communication, ILOSC

Introduction

Academic Librarianship is drastically changing with the development of digital technology. This technology has changed the working culture of Library with diverse services. The space of traditional services has been replaced with digital and modern services. The approach toward library as a book house has been changed to knowledge resources centre. Every user has expected more and precise information within the short time. Therefore to surpass this situation library professionals need to communication with subject experts and colleague professionals. It means that a scholarly and effective communications needs to happen at a common platform and which will be accessible to everyone. For the betterment of profession a process of scholarly communication should be carried out persistently with the involvement of end participants. The academic librarians should be acquainted with knowledge and should share the ideas and involve in this process.

Scholarly Communication

The scholarly communication is a unique type of communication, which happen between academic professionals of research scholars and international research groups with shared fields of interest and research. Such type of communication can saw at seminar, conferences and publication at research journals and books. It is a platform to exchange the new ideas, critical



analysis, personal opinions and updates in the field among the scholars. It increases the fundamental aspects and scientific attitude and create research based scientific environment.

The communication channels have been changed from printing to digital format. Previously we have to depend on publishers, but now you can publish your article by your own blog, website etc. These advancements in publication have expanded the communication easily and speedily. The information can be preserve, organized and distribute through emails, databases, conferences, journals, virtual communities like blogs, chats, discussion forums etc. also you can develop your professional networks. Moreover, some scholar use not only academic social network platforms such as Research Gate, Academic or Mendeley but also a variety of social media, such as twitter, facebook, flickr, you tube, blogs, podcasts for scholarly communication. These social media tools have expanded the possibilities of informal communication. In India, Library professionals are very active to participate in the information exchange through communication platform like LIS Forum, ILOSC discussion forum, LIS links, E-Librarians etc. The Library professionals from Maharashtra have started to communicate first time on Maharashtra Librarians online study circle, which rename later as Indian Librarians online study circle.

Academic Librarianship in India

Librarians should work as mediator between the researchers in various subjects. Lots of librarians have developed their institutional repositories for the promotion of the intellectual output of their institution. These IR has overcomes with the geographical, language or physical barriers to explore the scholars and their publication throughout the world. The collaborative authorship has been rise in the publication across the globe. Therefore the role of librarian in this modern era has been changed. The Open access resources need to add in the collection of Library resources and make available in their library catalogue.

The scholarly communication comprises virtual contacts, institutional repositories, electronic publication, open access initiatives and expression on various social media. This communication has become so fast and broke the barriers of geographical and dependency on publishers.

Now days, the libraries are dependent on the acceptance of these modern technologies to serve the society and its mankind. To keep themselves abreast with the latest technology, the



library professionals are connected to Social networking. The adoption of social networking and collaboration are becoming more important for the library profession. Today's libraries professionals are changing their views and accepting the technology and hence needs arise of getting on to the social media and get connected to other libraries and library professionals.

Indian Librarian online study Circle is one of the platform for Library professionals to scholarly communicate with all professionals, teachers, scholars and students.

Indian Librarians online study circle ILOSC

ILOSC is one of the significant social group working toward the Library community in India. The scholarly communication among the professionals is seen very widely on this group. The paper is deals with the various aspects discussed on the LIS profession, services and needs of the user.

Indian Librarians online study circle (previously Maharashtra Librarians online study circle) established on 20th July 2008. As on 31st January 2019 it has been grown to 6965+ members from various parts of India as well as abroad. The total discussion on the group is dedicated to Library and Information Science and the total post discussed at the forum are 35442 till the date.

Scope and Limitation

The Indian Librarians online study circle has been selected to fulfill the objective of this paper. The latest month's data i.e. January 2019 has been consider. There are also many academic groups working in library professions are not covered in this paper, only ILOSC data for the month of January 2019 has been considered.

Research is a systematic and scientific approach to a problem in order to solve it. Therefore research consists of a specialized activity carried out systematically that aims at bringing about improvement in the concerned field. It may attempt to answer a question on to determine the relationship between two or more variables or determine the effect of one or more variable on another one. Research design explains the plan of the study in detail. It is an important step in the research process. It gives the description of the tools used for collecting information, the sample, the methodology of the study, variables taken into consideration. A worthwhile study could be resulted by careful planning. For the present study, for acquiring the research information, an observation technique has been used.



Scholarly communication on ILOSC

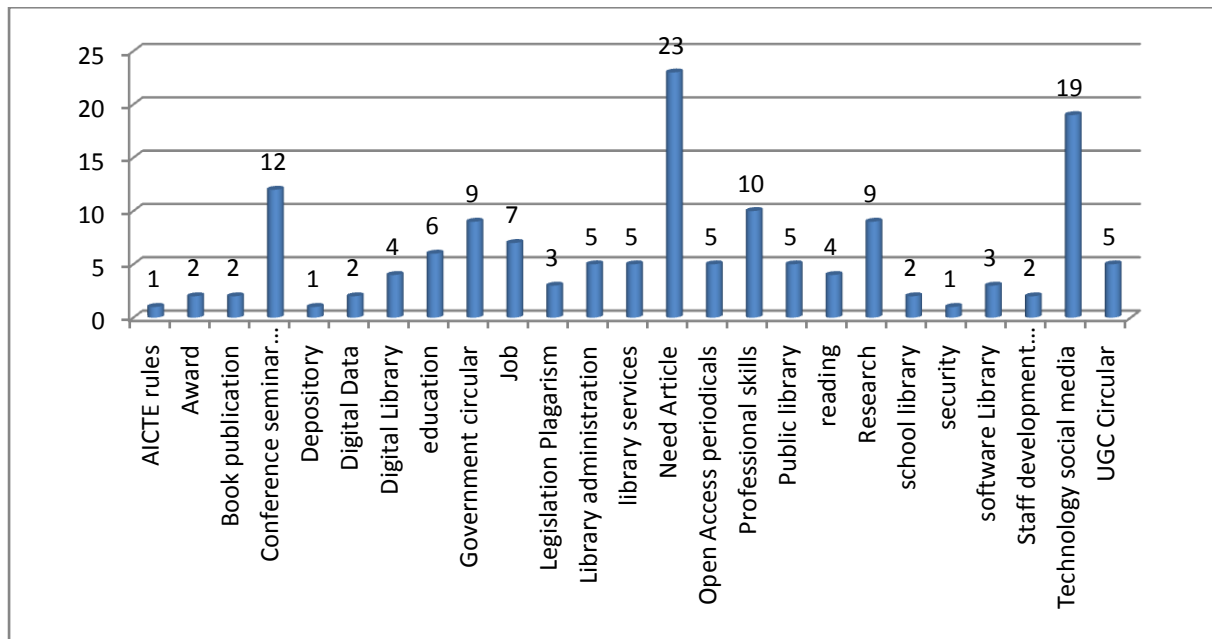
The data has been considered for the scholarly communication in the month of January 2019. In this month total 14 members were added to this group with the total membership has been grown upto 6965 members upto 31st January 2019. The members were added are belongs to library professions with 20% female and 80% male library professionals from all over the India. There were 164 posts has been seen with 147 topics discussed in the month of January 2019. Total 35422 posts have been discussed since this forum has been started from June 2008. The main focus of the paper is to know which type of communication has been seen among the library professionals.

Table no. 1. Communication of ILOSC

Sr. no.	Topics	Posts	Percentage
1	AICTE rules	1	0.68
2	Award	2	1.36
3	Book publication	2	1.36
4	Conference seminar workshop	12	8.16
5	Depository	1	0.68
6	Digital Data	2	1.36
7	Digital Library	4	2.72
8	education	6	4.08
9	Government circular	9	6.12
10	Job	7	4.76
11	Legislation Plagarism	3	2.04
12	Library administration	5	3.40
13	library services	5	3.40
14	Need Article	23	15.65
15	Open Access periodicals	5	3.40
16	Professional skills	10	6.80
17	Public library	5	3.40
18	reading	4	2.72
19	Research	9	6.12
20	school library	2	1.36
21	security	1	0.68
22	software Library	3	2.04
23	Staff development programme	2	1.36
24	Technology social media	19	12.93
25	UGC Circular	5	3.40
	Total	147	100.00



Chart no. 1. Communication of ILOSC



- The members specify the reason to join this discussion forum is to get more Information, Latest area in LIS, update their knowledge, professional skills and Jobs related information. It means that members are eager to participate in the scholarly communication happens in this group. The members have been joined this group because they well aware the importance of the group and its scholarly communication from their professionals friends.
- Out of 147 topics 17 topics were discussed more than one times, beside the need of article and information. There were 15.65% topics related needs the article and Information, which is the highest communicative topic among the professionals. As per the rule of this group, the required articles were not posted on the group rather than it have been delivered to individual. This Document Delivery services is very popular in this ILOSC forum. Professionals are engaged in research and publication which needs some research articles and the ILOSC forum fulfill their needs. So we can believe that ILOSC is the best for Document delivery services and scholar joins together to share the required information for their research work.
- The technology is changing very rapidly, every day new gadgets have been launched and the improvements in services with new version have been introduced by various companies. The new technological information has been shared with 13% of the total topics of posted in the month of January on ILOSC. This is the second most topic discussed among the professionals as it will useful to update their knowledge and improvise the skills and provide



better services to the users. In the scholarly communication such updating information in technology and social media play a vital role.

- All scholars need to express their knowledge, their views or opinions toward the large community, this will happen when he speak at Conferences, Seminar etc. Such gatherings have been organized by various Institutions and ILOSC is sharing this information to all Library professionals. In the month of January 2019 there were 8.16% posts were related to such events.
- The professional skills are needed to update regularly for better communication and self improvements as a professional. There was 6.80% time professional skill related information was discussed on ILOSC.
- Research is the main thrust area among the library professionals. In the month January 2019 out of total posts 6.12% posts were related to research in Library profession. Also 6.12% posts related to Government circulars, which useful while working in academic sector.
- Job aspirants are also joined the group, even working professionals impatient for the better job opportunity in library sector. Therefore such advertisement have encourage for acquiring a good position at best Institutions. In this month there were 4.76% information shared on the forum.
- LIS education is one of the fascinating subject among the professionals with 4.08% posts were discussed on this subject.
- The Public Library information also shared to know the scenario of the public library and its movement in India. Library Administration and services are important while working in library, therefore to updates in this area there were 3.40% posts published on each of the topics with same posting on public libraries and UGC related information.
- The other subjects like Digital library, reading habits and reading environment, Library software, copy right acts, plagiarism, publication, awards, school library information, staff development programmes, library securities issues etc. also discussed by the scholars on ILOSC in the month of January 2019.

As we have found that the scholarly communication is not limited to one subject or area. It is discussed on various aspects or facets of library in various angles. It started from historical view to futuristic approach of profession with the innovative ideas for the betterment of our profession. Hence, it was found that information in various areas to update the Library



Professionals was available on ILOSC through which they can provide better and improved library services to their library users.

Conclusion

The scholarly communication is playing important role for the fruitful output of any profession. In India, ILOSC is plays a vital role to carried out such communication among the library professionals. Such communication increase the awareness of new digital environment and broad consensus with researchers in the library field. The new publishing mode, preservation and exchange techniques with legal, ethical and copy rights rules with intellectual property rights have been important while scholarly communication. The ILOSC have develop the professional competences among the library professionals in India and still its working for the betterment of the society and profession.

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